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OF THE

National Conference of Social Work

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No. 3

THE CANADIAN CONFERENCE

Canada is rapidly proving herself to be much more than a lean-to adjunct of the United States in matters of social work. The increasing participation and influence of Canadians in sessions of the National Conference are an indication of this. Not only in war-time adjustment, but in standard types of peace-time organization, social work in the Dominion presents many instructive features. The Canadian Conference grew directly out of the National Conference meeting at Toronto in 1897. It will be profitable for all members of the Conference to read the following sketch written by a well known social worker of Toronto, Miss Mary E. Shenstone.—Ed.

The Canadian Conference of Charities and Correction held its sixteenth annual session at Ottawa, the Dominion capital, September 23-25. This conference is still not far advanced from the chrysalis stage, especially as compared with the great National Conference. Yet it evidenced the stimulus which social work has lately received in Canada by the increase in the number of delegates, the variety in types of social work represented, and the keenness of interest displayed in the broader aspects of public welfare activities.

The country was represented from coast to coast, by the 150 members present. Ontario, by virtue of its large English-speaking population and its proximity to the place of meeting, sent about two-thirds of the registered delegates, eighteen different cities or towns of the province being represented. The western provinces sent 15 delegates. Toronto headed the list of cities with 57 representatives, and Montreal came next with 25.

Following in the footsteps of the National Conference, and as a result of the same feeling that "Conference of Charities and Correction" was an inadequate and misleading name, the Canadian Conference decided to change its name. It will call itself in future the "Canadian Conference on Public Welfare." As evidence that the Conference has really passed the chrysalis stage, however, and has recognized and determined upon its place in Canadian life, a constitution, temporarily accepted at the Toronto Conference in 1916, was put into final shape and adopted. The constitution declares that "the objects shall be to discuss the problems of public welfare in all their relations, to secure and disseminate information, and to promote the effectiveness of all agencies and institutions devoted to these

ends. The Conference does not formulate platforms." Membership is open to "all persons interested in the above objects, upon payment of an individual membership fee."

Consisting as yet of so small a group, the conference at Ottawa was organized and planned along very simple lines. Just as at the National Conference ten or twenty years ago, it was possible here for all to be present at all the sessions. Papers and discussions were arranged by the five standing committees; the committees on social legislation, education for citizenship, neighborhood work, public and private relief, and immigration, the whole conference having the opportunity to gain some knowledge of the broad scope of the social work thus covered. While it is difficult to organize so small a conference in any other way, and while this method gives the whole group an idea of the correlation and aims of the various kinds of social work, there is one great disadvantage in such a plan. It necessitates a less technical and more general discussion of problems, and falls often to get at the practical working difficulties of the individual delegates. There was a noticeable lack of discussion at Ottawa of definite ways and means to attain definite ends.

There were two main currents of thought throughout the Conference. The first was the realization that, although social workers have a common aim, this aim is almost lost sight of in the multiplication of types of activity and of agencies, all working

(Continued on page 2, column 2)

A TALE OF TWO STATES

double bill of regional activity is being mapped out in preparation for the 1918 meeting of the National Conference. The Missouri-Kansas border gained notoriety in the days of the Missouri Compromise, of the settlement of Kansas, and of Civil War raids. This early belligerency has had its later moral equivalent in contrasting popular customs, and even in college athletic contests, frequently staged in Kansas City.

In politics, in legislation, and in many other aspects of interest to the social reformer, the two states are radically different. The border is no "imaginary line." Yet in social work this north-and-south axis running through the 1918 conference city stands only for friendly rivalry.

The dumb-bell appearance of the situation for the 1918 Conference affects not only the two states, but the local metropolitan district as well. About half a million persons live in the metropolitan area of Kansas City, if the increase in population the last few years corresponds to that of the last census decade. Somewhat less than three-fourths of this number live in Kansas City, Missouri, and practically all of the remainder in Kansas City, Kansas. The latter is the largest city of the Sunflower State, whereas Kansas City, Missouri, takes second rank to St. Louis.

Kansas City lies about as far west of the center of population as Pittsburgh, the place of meeting of the 1917 conference, lies east. In 1910 Missouri ranked as the seventh state in popu-

ENVIRONMENT OF THE KANSAS CITY CONFERENCE

(See descriptive notes column 3 above)



Cities of 25,000 inhabitants or more (1910 census) shown. In addition, map shows Jefferson City, the capital of Missouri, and Columbia and Lawrence, the seats of the state universities of Missouri and Kansas, respectively.

lation, with about three and one-fourth million inhabitants. Kansas, with considerably less than two million, ranked twenty-second.

In area these two states contrast interestingly with familiar regions to the eastward, either of them being considerably larger than Pennsylvania, and even larger than the entire group of New England states. Kansas, with its 82,000 square miles, is about 15 per cent. larger than Missouri.

This extensive territory is, of course, much more thinly populated than regions to the eastward, Missouri having fifty persons to the square mile and Kansas only twenty-one. These ratios might be contrasted with that for Ohio, which has one hundred seventeen inhabitants to the square mile.

To social workers, the distribution of people as between cities and open country is of primary importance. Nearly one-half the population of Missouri, 42.5 per cent, live in cities of 2,500 or more. The corresponding figure for Kansas is 29.2 per cent. In this respect the two states fall in the most extensive class of states—those ranging from 25 to 50 per cent. urban population. The shifting in ratio between city and country population is quite as important as the actual enumeration. Missouri is one of the few states whose rural population decreased in the last census decade, while the rural population of Kansas increased only 7 per cent. On the other hand, both states showed large increases in population of their cities.

Homes for the Poor

In the exhibit and competition affecting plans and methods of administration of public homes for the poor at the Pittsburgh Conference, thirty-seven institutions were represented. Of this number, however, only eight presented sufficient material to be considered in the competition. An elaborate plan of scoring was adopted by the committee of judges, of which Mr. Francis Bardwell, of the Massachusetts State Board of Charity, was chairman.

Of institutions in the first class (population 100 to 500) the two entrants were graded as follows:

Hillside Home, Bridgeport, Connecticut	94
Vermilion County Home, Illinois.....	62

In the second class (population under 100) the following grades were given:

Du Page County, Illinois.....	77
Lawrence County, Indiana.....	66
Livingston County, Illinois.....	66
Adams County, Indiana.....	59
Orange County, Indiana.....	49
Jackson County, Illinois.....	41

The formal results as shown by this scoring are only an inadequate representation of the interest in this unique undertaking and of its importance for the development of institution standards. Entrants generally considered the matter of stimulating public interest and facilitating the determination of standards of administration to be of far greater importance than the mere award of first honors. An indication of this was the instructive historical exhibit of Massachu-

setts institutions at Salem, Fall River and Manchester.

A more extensive presentation of the results and significance of this competition will be made in a special circular to be published by the Conference soon. The efforts represented in this exhibit will be continued another year. Everyone who has the matter of better standards of almshouse administration at heart is urged to co-operate with the Conference in developing interest in this competition.

Forty-two addresses given at the Pittsburgh Conference have been published in pamphlet form as listed on page six. The average number of addresses published individually from each of the last four previous conferences is 21. This shows a healthy increase in demand for National Conference literature in pamphlet form.

**Announcement is made of dates
for the Kansas City meeting of
the National Conference of
Social Work
MAY 15-22, 1918**

**Members may assist by helping
keep this period free from other
important engagements and public
meetings of similar nature.**

The Canadian Conference (Continued from page 1)

by themselves. It is worthy of note that even in this country, where social work is only beginning, the number of agencies is already so great as to make the confusion and waste of the individualistic method of work apparent from the start. On that account the Canadian workers listened with especially keen interest to Mr. H. L. Allen, of the Federation of Social Agencies, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who described the federation idea and the results in saving of money and energy and of unification of action, which it had attained.

The second main current of thought was that the true idea of democracy is the development of community consciousness; that the great task of the social worker is the bringing to light of the latent forces in the individuals with whom he or she is working. Mr. John Collier, of the New York School for Community Workers, at a luncheon on the last day of the conference, proved how futile and uncertain are all our reforms without the backing of an enlightened public, and told of the success of the community center movement in accomplishing this end.

The report of the Committee on Neighborhood Work, presented by Miss Mary J. Clarke of Central Neighborhood House, Toronto, comprised a survey of the conditions in neighborhood work in Canada, and closed with the following sentences: "We are beginning to realize that it is only upon the foundation of community cohesion and community responsibility that a conscious and enlightened democracy can be raised. It is the privilege of

the neighborhood worker to labor in his small community to lay this foundation by discovering the community to itself."

On the evening given over to the immigrant problem, Rev. James Shaver, of Fort William, Ontario, told how in that town with its large foreign population he had given the immigrants "experience in democracy" through organizing them in night schools and in a Civic Improvement League. The Rev. Hugh Dobson, Field Secretary, Department of Social Service of the Methodist Church, Regina, gave the results of a survey made in a community in Saskatchewan. Out of over 3,000 inhabitants only 128 were Canadian born. He emphasized the weakness of our condescending policy in regard to the immigrant in the past and advised that in future all efforts should be bent towards bringing out what is in the foreigner. Canadian social workers hope to weld all the different people. Mr. Woods spoke on "The State as ples in their country into a democracy rich in the best qualities of the nations represented there."

Mr. Robert Dexter, of the Montreal Charity Organization Society, made a strong plea for more thorough case-work in Canada, for trained workers with the equipment which will enable them to give intelligent care to the family group, and to make each family situation available for community purposes. The report of the committee on Education for Citizenship urged the importance of the improvement of the schools in these days when the home offers so little opportunity for co-operation in work and play. Dr. Hincks, of the Psychiatric Clinic of the Toronto General Hospital, spoke about the neglect of the mental defective in Canada. Mr. J. Howard T. Falk of Winnipeg reported on the success of the Mothers' Allowance Act of Manitoba, and Dr. J. T. Gilmour, Ontario Parole Commissioner, urged the adoption of the indeterminate sentence, on which he felt all constructive work with criminals depended. The Dominion immigration law and its administration was very frankly discussed by Mr. George Pelletier of "Le Devoir," Montreal, and Dr. J. D. Pagé, president of the Canadian Public Health Association, and chief inspector at the Port of Quebec. They recommended that its administration be removed from politics and placed under the Public Health Department.

One fact which could not fail to attract notice, especially if one had been at the National Conference last spring, was that war problems and after-war problems were given no place on the program. None of the many patriotic societies or commissions dealing with the returned soldier were represented in the discussions and the war was very infrequently referred to in any of the papers.

The Conference elected Dr. J. H. Riddell of Winnipeg, president for 1918 and agreed to meet next autumn four-fifths of the way across the continent, at Edmonton, Alberta. Mr. F. H. Burnett, City Hall, Toronto, continues as general secretary.

NEWS OF THE STATES

Minnesota

The twenty-sixth annual State Conference of Charities and Correction for Minnesota, the first annual conference of the Board of Control with officials charged with the enforcement of laws relating to children, and the sixteenth annual meeting of the State Association of County Commissioners held a joint session at Owatonna, September 29-October 2. It has been customary in the past for the conference of social workers and the Association of County Commissioners to meet together, but this is the first time that the officials charged with the enforcement of child laws have been a constituent part of the assembly. The presence of probate judges, probation officers, and other officials with like functions was insured by reason of the passage of a law providing for their attendance. Each group held meetings to consider individual problems but all were delegates of the general convention and attended its meetings. About three hundred delegates were present, a record attendance for such conferences in Minnesota.

Discussions centered largely around questions of child welfare, with especial reference to the legislation of 1917 and the effects which the war is having upon social activities generally. Miss Julia C. Lathrop, Chief of the Federal Children's Bureau, with convincing logic drove home the lessons which the war has taught European countries as to the welfare of their children. The conference was fortunate in the presence of Robert A. Woods, head resident of South End House, Boston, and president of the National Conference of Social Work, the Great Community." A symposium on "Social Activities Resulting from the War" presented interesting and enlightening information. Frank J. Bruno, district director of civilian relief for the American Red Cross, told "How the Red Cross Plans to Care for Soldiers' Families." Henry F. Burt, field secretary of the American Social Hygiene Association, described "Social Hygiene in the Army and Navy." Miss Anna Owers, of the Y. W. C. A., discussed "Reaching the Girl Problem in Cantonment Cities," and S. Wirt Wiley, of the Y. M. C. A., told of the work which that organization is doing for the men of the armies. W. A. Crossland of the Playground and Recreation Association described "Recreational Organization in Camp Communities."

The conference for the coming year will be held during the month of October at Red Wing. The new officers are: Judge E. A. Lewis of Long Prairie, president; and William W. Hodson of Minneapolis, secretary.

Indiana

Laporte, a city of 13,000, in the extreme northwestern part of Indiana, was the scene of the twenty-sixth annual state conference, September 29 to October 2. At the final session Norman Sommerville of Toronto, Can-

ada, summarized the results of the conference by saying that preparation must be made now for the social problems of dependency, insanity, tuberculosis and the like, which will come to America during the war and afterwards.

Other speakers of national repute outside of Indiana who attended the conference were Robert A. Woods of Boston, president of the National Conference; W. Frank Persons, director of civilian relief of the American Red Cross, Washington; T. J. Edmonds of the same department, for the Central States Division, and James L. Fieser of the Great Lakes Division; Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett, president of the National Florence Crittenton Mission; J. Prentice Murphy, secretary of the Boston Children's Aid Society, and Dr. A. H. Estabrook, of the Eugenics Record Office, Cold Spring Harbor, New York.

A feature of the 1917 conference was the large number of luncheons and breakfasts held by different groups, for informal discussion of various problems.

Other features of the conference were the addresses by Will Hays, Director of the State Council of Defense, and Professor G. I. Christie of Purdue University, Indiana State Food Administrator, appealing for every one's aid and encouragement in the war preparations and the food conservation program. The care of the tubercular and insane soldiers was also freely discussed, as well as preparations for the care of invalided soldiers back from Europe.

Wisconsin

The Wisconsin state conference, held at Chippewa Falls, October 10 to 12, is considered to have been the most successful meeting in the history of the organization. 'Beside a splendid local attendance, probably 115 delegates from outside of Chippewa Falls were present. War time social problems commanded chief attention. Yet due emphasis was placed upon the necessity of maintaining and actually raising social work standards in time of war. Mrs. Florence G. Buckstaff of Oshkosh sounded this keynote in the president's address. "A Working Program for War Time Service" was the subject of the most popular morning session. Robert A. Woods, president of the National Conference, participated in this discussion, and also at the opening evening session. On the latter occasion he spoke on "The State as the Great Community."

A representative of the adjutant-general's office, having in charge the administration of the state separation allowance law, Bryan J. Castle, spoke on the care of soldiers' families. Professor J. L. Gillin, of the state university, outlined the Red Cross plan of training volunteers for home service. The practical phases of family treatment were presented by T. J. Edmonds, director of civilian relief of the Red Cross. War problems in the public health field, prevention of juvenile delinquency in soldiers' families and questions of public relief were other

important points at which application of the lessons of the war was made to social work.

The officers for the ensuing year include, president, Prof. John L. Gillin, and secretary, Prof. W. H. Hintzman, both of the state university.

Ohio

"A State Program for Public Welfare" was the subject of the presidential address at the Ohio State Conference at Springfield October 2-4. James O. White, superintendent of charities and correction of Cincinnati, presided, and the attendance, in spite of the limiting effects of the war, was quite encouraging. Governor James M. Cox, speaking the same evening, showed an intimate appreciation of social work which was very pleasing to the delegates. The extension of juvenile court administration in rural sections and the reduction of institutional treatment of children to the minimum, were the leading reforms advocated by Governor Cox. He announced the appointment of Dr. H. H. Goddard, of Vineland, New Jersey, to the directorship of the State Bureau of Juvenile Research.

War-time readjustments constituted the leading theme of the meeting. Within this field, emphasis was laid chiefly on the fact that civilian relief is a technical task requiring trained workers. Among the out-of-town speakers were Joel D. Hunter of Chicago, Dr. F. H. Knight, J. Prentice Murphy of Boston and Miss Elsa Ueland of Philadelphia. Separate associations of children's home superintendents and matrons and of county visitors met at the same time. James L. Fieser of Cleveland, director of the Lake division of the Red Cross, was chosen president for 1918, and H. H. Shirer, secretary of the Board of State Charities, secretary.

Copies of the National Conference publication entitled, "State, District and Local Conferences," a four-page pamphlet, will be mailed free on request.

Conferences, 1917, Secretaries

ILL.—Joliet, Oct. 26-28. Annie Hinrichsen, State Capitol, Springfield.
KAN.—Emporia, Oct. 29-30. G. M. Pfeiffer, Sixth and Minnesota Ave., Kansas City.
KY.—Berea, Nov. 10-12. Charles Strull, 531 S. First St., Louisville.
ME.—Waterville, Oct. 25-26. Gladys Gaylord, 173 State St., Waterville.
MASS.—New Bedford, Oct. 24-26. Lillian M. Brown, 184 Boylston St., Boston.
MICH.—Lansing, Oct. 21-23. Marl T. Murray, State Capitol, Lansing.
MO.—Joplin, Nov. 18-20. J. L. Wagner, Gordon Hotel Bldg., Columbia.
N. Y.—Binghamton, Nov. 13-17. Richard W. Wallace, Box 17, Capitol, Albany.
N. Y. (Westchester County) Conference of Charities and Corrections—White Plains, Oct. 25. Florence J. Parsons, White Plains, N. Y.
S. C.—Aiken, Nov. 13-15. Margaret Laing, 1121 Gervais St., Columbia.
TEX.—Houston, Nov. 11-13. Flora Saylor, 1913½ Commerce St., Dallas.
TRI-STATE CONFERENCE (Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia)—Wilmington, Del., Nov. 7-9. William H. Davenport, McCoy Hall, Baltimore.
W. Va.—Fairmont, Nov. 19-21. A. E. Sinks, 300 Board of Trade Bldg., Wheeling.

BULLETIN OF THE NATIONAL Conference of Social Work

President, Robert A. Woods
South End House, Boston

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William T. Cross

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The National Conference of Social Work (until recently the National Conference of Charities and Correction) exists to facilitate discussion of the problems and methods of practical human improvement, to increase the efficiency of agencies and institutions devoted to this cause, and to disseminate information.

It began as a part of the American Social Science Association in 1874. Its scope and influence have gradually widened with the growth of scientific thought and the increase in extent and complexity of social problems. Its annual meetings attract between 3,000 and 4,000 delegates.

The Conference consists of seven permanent Divisions, devoted to the following subjects: Children; Delinquents and Correction; Health; Public Agencies and Institutions; The Family; Industrial and Economic Problems; and The Local Community. Special provision is made for the consideration of subjects not falling under any of these classifications.

Anyone who is interested in the purposes and work of the Conference may become a member upon payment of the prescribed fee: regular members, \$3.00 a year; sustaining, \$10.00; Institutional, \$25.00. Join the Conference, so as to lend it your support and to participate in the benefits of its association.

Donations, in any amounts, are asked, to maintain and increase the larger educational work of the organization.

The *Proceedings* of the annual meeting, in cloth-bound volume or in separate sections, and this monthly *Bulletin* are furnished all members. This and other literature, including many pamphlets, may be purchased by persons not belonging to the Conference. Price lists will be sent on request.

A bureau of information about social problems and agencies is maintained at the Chicago office, for the service of all who may inquire, even though they may not be members.

How Much Do You Believe in the National Conference?

On behalf of the Executive Committee, the Committee on Finance and Accounts of the National Conference has undertaken to raise a separate Publication and Educational Service Fund during October and November. Action was taken at the Pittsburgh meeting providing for separate financing of routine operations and of the larger service of the Conference. The latter is to be supported on the basis of special subscriptions. Appeal is to be made to all members as well as outside friends of the Conference urging them to subscribe as largely as possible to this Service Fund. Success in the effort means more adequate service on the part of the National Conference in the present crisis, for which the ordinary membership revenues are not sufficient. Show your belief in the importance of the National Conference by subscribing liberally when you are asked!

Scarcely had the series of proposals for increased cooperation with state and local conferences been published when advantage was taken of one of the suggestions by the California Conference of Social Agencies. Through its president, Miss Pearl Chase, an order was placed for twenty-four copies of the National Conference BULLETIN, to be sent at the special club rate to officers of the state conference.

New York Clubs Try Consolidation

"The Social Worker" is the title of a small periodical published by members of the social service clubs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx and Staten Island. Calling the 24-page booklet a "house organ" of the federation, the editors strike a fine note of appreciation of the intellectual and the otherwise human needs of social workers in metropolitan centers. Arrangements are announced for monthly program sessions, for monthly "hikes" to scenic spots, and for dinner parties at a series of restaurants. "Enroll in the social workers' club of your borough," the final injunction, reflects a fine modern conception of professional thoroughness.

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

The BULLETIN will give from time to time brief notes of changes in location or occupation of National Conference members. For this use, and for assistance in directing National Conference literature, members are urged to cooperate by informing the Chicago office immediately of such changes.

Bowen, A. L., Sec'y State Char. Com'n of Ill., becomes Sup't Char. in the State Dept. of Public Welfare.

Bradley, Welcome W., Sec'y Minneapolis Humane Society, becomes Sec'y Minnesota Soc. for Prevention of Cruelty, 202 Wilder Bldg., St. Paul.

Brown, Sara A., Sec'y Social Service Bureau and Overseer of Poor, Ottumwa, Ia., becomes Sec'y Assoc. Char., Lansing, Mich.

Chambers, Miss Erie, Chief Probation Officer of Little Rock, has been appointed a member of the newly created Com'n of Char. and Cor. of Arkansas.

Davenport, William H., of the county service of the Baltimore Alliance of Social Agencies, becomes Gen'l Sec'y of the Md. Prisoners' Aid Asso., 105 Court House, Baltimore.

Doty, Helen C., of the Children's Service Bureau of Pittsburgh, becomes Gen'l Sec'y of the Char. Soc. of Lancaster, Pa.

Fenstad, Miss Magdeline, Dis. Sec'y United Char., St. Paul, becomes Sec'y Social Service Committee, Fed. of Welfare Agencies of Staten Island, N. Y.

Fleser, James L., Mgr. Bur. Social Service of Columbus, O., becomes Div. Dir. of Civilian Relief, Lake District, American Red Cross, 1034 Garfield Bldg., Cleveland.

Hall, Dr. Gertrude E., New York State Board of Char., assumes charge of Mothers' Aid work of Maine State Board of Char. and Cor.

Macy, V. Everit, Com'r of Char. and Cor., Westchester county, N. Y., has been appointed chairman of the Committee on Mediation and Conciliation of the National Council of Defense.

Queen, Stuart A., Sec'y State Board of Char. and Cor. of Calif., becomes Dir. of the Texas School of Civics and Philanthropy, 1113 1/2 Commerce St., Dallas.

Raymond, Stockton, Dis. Sec'y, Char. Org. Soc. of N. Y., becomes Sup't of the Asso. Char., Columbus, O.

Sickels, Margaret H., Sec'y Char. Org. Soc., Goldsboro, N. C., becomes a member of the staff of the Conn. Children's Aid Soc., Hartford.

Snow, Dr. William F., Gen. Sec'y, Amer. Social Hygiene Asso., has been

President Woods has, during September and October, attended the state conference meetings of Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Iowa, filling other important engagements en route.

Deceased

With deep sorrow and with realization of the insufficiency of this announcement as an expression of the sympathy of the Conference, record is made of the death of the following members:

Mrs. George E. Adams, Chicago, May 6, 1917; a member for many years.

Professor A. R. Charman, State Normal School, Terre Haute, Ind., April 5, 1917; a member for many years.

J. D. Lynn, Endorsement Secretary of the St. Louis Business Men's League, March, 1917; a member since 1912.

Dr. Harry D. Holton, Brattleboro, Vt., Secretary of the State Board of Health, February, 1917; a member since 1911.

Mrs. Armenia S. White, Concord, N. H., May 7, 1916; a member since 1895.

Jesse W. Potts, Albany, N. Y., May 10, 1916; a member since 1898.

assigned to the Division of Infectious Diseases of the Surgeon General's office, Washington.

Stokes, Anson Phelps, Yale University, New Haven, becomes Pres. of Hampton Normal and Agr. Institute, Hampton, Va. Valle, Gertrude, Exec. Sec'y Char. and Cor. Div., Dep't of Social Welfare of Denver, becomes Dir. of Civilian Relief of Mountain Division, Amer. Red Cross, Denver.

Wood, Mrs. Ira Couch, of the Council of National Defense, becomes Dir. of Elizabeth McCormick Memorial Fund, Chicago.

Members of the Conference in War Service

In France

Bicknell, Ernest P., until recently Dir. Gen. of Civilian Relief, Amer. Red Cross. Cabot, Richard C., M. D., Boston. Devine, Edward T., Dir., School of Philanthropy, New York.

Farrand, Livingston, Pres., Univ. of Colorado.

Folks, Homer, Sec'y of the State Char. Aid Asso. of New York.

Kellogg, Paul U., Editor, *The Survey*, New York.

In Russia

Robins, Raymond, of Chicago. Taylor, Graham Romeyn, of *The Survey*, New York.

Winslow, Dr. C. E. A., Yale University, New Haven.

In Europe

(Jewish Relief Commission)

Bogen, Boris D., of Cincinnati.

Senior, Max, of Cincinnati.

In the United States

(With the War Commission on Training Camp Activities)

Ashe, W. F., Pittsburgh.

Atkinson, R. K., Sag Harbor.

Bellamy, George A., Cleveland.

Burt, Henry F., Minneapolis.

Crossland, W. A., St. Joseph.

Falconer, Douglas F., Newark, N. J.

Gordon, Spencer R., Bridgeport.

Haynes, Rowland, New York.

Hoyer, Raymond A., Cleveland.

Jaynes, Ira W., Detroit.

Johnson, Fred R., Boston.

Johnson, Virgil V., Rockford.

Jones, Cheney C., Cleveland.

Loomis, Frank D., Indianapolis.

Manning, Victor R., New York.

North, C. C., Columbus, O.

Reed, Charles E., Chicago.

Settle, T. S., Birmingham.

Wallace, Roy Smith, Philadelphia.

Weller, Charles F., Chicago.

Williams, James B., Los Angeles.

KINDRED GROUPS

Following the explanation of relationship of kindred organizations meeting at the time of the National Conference which was given in the September issue of the BULLETIN, brief accounts of the transactions of some of these groups at the time of the Pittsburgh Conference may be of assistance. Some groups have been given such notice in the August and September issues. It is more important than ever that established groups of this nature get their plans under way many months in advance of the annual meeting at Kansas City.

Policewomen--Police Matrons

The International Association of Police Women, which was organized at the Baltimore Conference, met at Pittsburgh under the presidency of Mrs. Alice Stebbins Wells, of Los Angeles. Forty delegates were in attendance, representing fourteen states. As many as 150 policewomen are in service in 64 cities in the United States, according to reports that were given. It was said, also, that 22,000 women were doing voluntary patrol duty in England. A resolution passed by the association pledges its membership to the work of home defense, especially on account of domestic and industrial problems of women and the new situations created by training camps for soldiers. Mrs. Wells was re-elected president and Mrs. Georgiana Sharrot, of Minneapolis, was chosen secretary.

The International Association of Police Matrons, an organization formed during the year under the presidency of Mrs. Margaret D. Corbett, of Rochester, N. Y., held sessions during the Pittsburgh Conference. The leading subjects of discussion were the problems of immorality among women and the work of police matrons. Considerable attention was given to plans of organization for the 1918 meeting, to be held in connection with the National Conference.

Urban Conditions Among Negroes

The plan of holding meetings of colored people in the conference city under the leadership of negro delegates to the National Conference, begun at the 1916 session, was continued this year under the auspices of the National League on Urban Conditions Among Negroes. The series of meetings at Pittsburgh commenced with a public reception at the colored men's branch of the Y. M. C. A. by the Pittsburgh Council for Social Service Among Negroes. The presiding officers were Dr. George E. Haynes, of Nashville, and Dean Kelly Miller, of Washington. The dominating ideal seemed to be the need of adequate collective action by colored people. The plan of "Reports from States," that proved so stimulating in the National Conference in the early days, was adopted for the purpose of this gathering in the form of reports of progress in various communities. Among the cities in which surveys of negro conditions or other interesting developments were reported to have taken

place were Memphis, Washington, Charlotte, N. C., Augusta, Ga., Columbia, S. C., Newark, N. J., St. Louis and Detroit. An attractive feature of the meetings was the singing of familiar hymns and folk songs.

Industrial Service

The definition of professional standards for persons engaged in the social service work of industrial concerns was the chief subject of interest at the meetings at Pittsburgh held under the leadership of Miss Edith S. Reider, of the International Harvester Company, Chicago, and Mrs. Richard Neustadt, of the Goodrich Company, Akron. A division of opinion developed regarding the question of independent action of social workers in relation to differences between employers and employees. The largest meeting was that devoted to the discussion of "The New Viewpoint in Industrial Management," about 160 delegates being present. The attendance at these meetings consisted mainly of employment managers, representatives of public and private employment agencies, educational directors and industrial social service workers. No officers were named for 1918, as the intention was expressed of carrying on the work of the group as a section of the National Conference.

Practical Sociologists

Teachers of practical sociology in attendance at the Pittsburgh Conference combined their customary luncheon with that of the New York School of Philanthropy and representatives of other schools for social work. Plans of development at various schools were reported. At two other sessions of this group, Professor J. E. Hagerty of Ohio State University presided. The relation of graduate to under-graduate courses for social workers, the social laboratory and short courses for the training of Red Cross civilian relief workers were the main subjects of discussion. Preliminary steps were taken toward the organization of an association of training schools for social workers. The meetings at Pittsburgh were organized by Professor Arthur J. Todd of the University of Minnesota.

Housing Group

A one-day housing institute was held during the Pittsburgh Conference under the joint auspices of the National Housing Association, the Pennsylvania Housing and Town Planning Conference and the Pittsburgh Housing Conference. Industrial housing proved to be the topic of chief interest, as there were present representatives from nineteen industrial concerns which have faced the necessity of providing housing facilities for their employees. Other subjects of discussion were the housing of the negro, the zoning plan, the socialized rent collector and the attitude of social workers toward the housing problem. Altogether 136 delegates were registered. The chairman was Lawrence Veiller, of New York.

Education of Children

The human element in dealing with the state's unfortunate was the dominating idea of meetings of the National Conference on the Education of Truant, Backward, Dependent and Delinquent Children, according to W. L. Kuser of Eldora, Iowa, who was president of this year's meeting at Pittsburgh. Anticipation of war burdens, the economic problems of institutions due to the high cost of food products, clothing and so forth, the treatment of the increase of juvenile delinquency and the emphasis on home care were the topics of chief importance. Charles Dunn, Jr., of South Portland, Maine, was chosen President, and Hobart H. Todd of Industry, New Jersey, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Church and Social Work

The social functions of religious agencies constituted the leading theme of a meeting of church workers held during the Pittsburgh Conference. More than 100 delegates were present. The subject was outlined by Rev. Henry A. Atkinson. Dean Kirchwey showed its special application to delinquency and Mr. Riley M. Little to dependency. The group decided to organize as a permanent adjunct of the National Conference.

Social Hygiene

Moral problems of the military training camps formed the major topic of discussion at special meetings held in Pittsburgh under the auspices of the American Social Hygiene Association. A lively interest was manifested in the attitude of the War and Navy Departments on this question. The organization of local community forces appeared to be the favorite solution.

Charities Endorsement

The group interested in problems of charities endorsement developed in their discussion at Pittsburgh a strong sentiment in favor of establishing a national bureau of information in regard to charities that have a national scope or operate in more than one state. A committee under the chairmanship of LeRoy A. Halbert, of Kansas City, was appointed to outline a plan of this character and also to encourage the discussion of charities endorsement at the 1918 Conference.

Jewish Social Workers

The meeting of the National Association of Jewish Social Workers is well characterized by Louis H. Levin, of Baltimore, in the issue of *Jewish Charities* for June:

"Through all the meetings of the Pittsburgh conference ran the red thread of war relief, touching depths of feeling that have not been reached before. For the first time the conference was able to show its reaction to the efforts of the field bureau, established not quite a year ago, and it is not too much to say that the gal-

vanizing effect of the field secretary's work was seen in the coming of a new spirit into the meetings. The connection hitherto between the constituent societies and the conference, and among themselves, was so undefined and tenuous, that the conference might easily have dissolved without evoking regret from any but the old members, to whom the annual meetings have become a cherished habit; but the field bureau has been able to gather up the loose ends, to form significant connections with smaller and undeveloped communities, and the ease with which groups could be gotten together for the consideration of special problems seems to have become a settled characteristic of our meetings; for again at Pittsburgh, the mere passing of the word around brought together at any time during the day or evening many delegates ready to thresh out the subject, and to take issue with anyone who was daring enough to generalize from too narrow a basis of information or experience."

Officers previously elected by the association continue for 1918. Jacob Billikopf, of Kansas City, is president. The field secretary is Boris D. Bogen, of Cincinnati.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF "TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT"

According to the report just issued by Fred S. Hall, Agent of the Transportation Committee of the National Conference of Social Work, 801 public agencies and private societies are now enrolled as signers of the transportation agreement. This agreement originated in 1903 when 139 societies obligated themselves, in effect, to abide by the golden rule in the matter of charitable transportation. They agreed to provide such transportation only when it was established by reliable evidence, in addition to the applicant's statement, that his condition and prospects will be substantially improved by sending him to the place in question, that he will have such resources for maintenance at the point of destination as will save him from becoming dependent on charity; or, that he has a legal residence in the place to which he is to be sent or is a proper charge upon the charity of that community.

The steady increase in the number of signers indicates the increased acceptance of these humane principles and a corresponding condemnation of the policy of "passing on," which once was so common.

Since 1910 the four members of the Transportation Committee have been appointed annually by the Executive Committee of the Conference. During the past year the committee has consisted of Jeffery R. Brackett, member of the Massachusetts State Board of Charity; E. D. Solenberger, general secretary of the Children's Aid Society of Pennsylvania; George S. Wilson, secretary of the Board of Charities of the District of Columbia, with William T. Cross, general secretary of the Conference as secretary ex officio. This committee passes upon disputes which may arise between signatory agencies as to the meaning of the agreement.

In the past fourteen years eight decisions have been rendered. One of these was made during the past year, and established the fact that "a sending society cannot be held responsible for transportation when an agency on the route is dealing with the family under new conditions arising without the control of the sending society, unless that society specially agrees to be responsible, as sharing in a materially modified plan for treatment of the family, looking to the improvement of its condition." Another dispute—also between societies on the Pacific and Atlantic coasts—was settled without presentation to the committee, the society complained against having furnished the transportation reimbursing the other society for over \$31.00 which it had been obliged to expend on the case.

A summary of all decisions rendered has been prepared, and copies may be obtained on application to the committee at Room 708, 130 East 22nd street, New York.

Probation Association

The family court, to take over the work of children's courts and so-called domestic relations courts, co-ordinating all investigations and probation treatment of children and cases arising out of family difficulties, including non-support and divorce, was advocated in resolutions adopted by the National Probation Association at its ninth annual conference at Pittsburgh. It was urged that the family court be under the direction of a single judge, who may in the large courts assign the entire charge of certain classes of cases to specially qualified judges. The report recommends ample probation departments, with medical and psychological clinics attached. As an example, in the Philadelphia Municipal Court the evils of treating the parents and children in different courts with no interchange of records have been obviated to a large degree by the co-ordination of the court's work, especially of the probation department.

The co-operation of the Federal Children's Bureau has been obtained for making a nation-wide study of the juvenile court.

Mrs. Benjamin West, of Memphis, was chosen president for 1918, and Charles L. Chute, of Albany, secretary-treasurer.

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